

Confidential Claim Retracted

Authorized by: SC

Date: 4/26/13

March 26, 1969

MINE INSPECTION REPORT
PAGUATE MINE
UNITED PUEBLO AGENCY
LAGUNA PUEBLO RESERVATION
VALENCIA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

LAGUNA PUEBLO
LEASE

by
James W. Hager
Mining Engineer

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
BRANCH OF MINING OPERATIONS
CONSERVATION DIVISION

On March 11, 1969, the Paguate Mine was examined. The mine is located on the Laguna Pueblo Indian Reservation approximately 8.5 miles north of the old Laguna Pueblo on U. S. Highway 66. The Anaconda Company holds the Tribal lease and operates the mine. The last inspection by engineers of this office was on November 21, 1968.

Complaints by the residence of the village of Paguate that blasting was disturbing the structures and endangering the peoples lives had been received by the company. The Bureau of Mines had made an examination of the use of explosives in the pit and had recommended no change. A private engineering company was employed to monitor the shock effect in the village and to recommend maximum blasts. The company has never set off more than 30 percent of the recommended limit. Considerable work has been done on homes in the villages when complaints were filed. There is no record of glass breakage. Guards are placed at each end of the Paguate road when blasting is done to prevent damage to any vehicle which might be near the pit when blasting takes place. It is believed that Anaconda is cooperating with all concerned to prevent any damage to life or property.

The part of the pit nearest Paguate is nearly completely stripped and as the ore will be removed by ripping with bull dozers there should



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not be much more blasting near the village.

No changes had been made in mining methods or equipment used since last examination.

No safety violations or violations of the lease terms were noted during the examination.

James W. Hager
Mining Engineer

Orig. to: Supt., United Pueblos, Albuquerque
cc: Comm., Office of Indian Affairs
: Chief, Branch of Mining Operations,
: Bureau of Mines, Denver *PHOENIX*
: Files